Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-133001 / P7872

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gilbert Wolrich et al. Art Unit : 2739
Serial No. : 09/476,303 Examiner : Hunt, Eric T.
Filed : December 30, 1999
Title : PORT BLOCKING TECHNIQUE FOR MAINTAINING RECEIVE PAKCET ORDERING FOR A MULTIPLE ETHERNET PORT SWITCH

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed December 31, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 13 as follows:

1.   A method for receiving data from a plurality of ports for processing by a plurality of processes including at least one thread, comprising:

assigning one of the plurality of ports to one of the plurality of processes;

determining that additional data is available from the assigned port; and

awaiting notification by the one of the plurality of processes that processing of the additional data has been completed prior to re-assigning the port to one of the plurality of processes.